In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

sensing an object identifier from a first object;

sending said first object identifier from a **particular** first **physical** device to a second **physical** device;

in response, at said second **physical** device, consulting a data structure **comprising an electronic data store** in which items of address information and object identifiers are respectively associated, so that a first item of address information has the first object identifier corresponding thereto, and a second item of address information has a second object identifier corresponding thereto, and so on; identifying from said data structure the first item of address information corresponding to said first object identifier; and sending same to the **particular** first **physical** device;

initiating a link from the **particular** first **physical** device in accordance with said first item of address information;

at said second **physical** device, identifying a second object identifier different than the first object identifier; identifying a second item of address information corresponding to said second object identifier; and sending said second item of address information to the **particular** first **physical** device, the second item of address information being sent after the first item of address information has been sent;

storing said second item of address information in a memory at the **particular** first **physical** device;

wherein, if an object having the second object identifier is sensed by the **particular** first **physical** device, the corresponding second item of address information can be retrieved from said memory in the **particular** first **physical** device without the intervening delays of communicating with the second device.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A system for linking from physical or digital objects to corresponding digital resources, comprising:

registration means for receiving data relating to an object, including its identity and owner, and associating same in a database with data relating to a corresponding response;

originating device means for sensing data from an input object, processing same, and forwarding same to a routing means;

routing means for processing the processed data from the originating device means, logging information from same, identifying a product handler means to which at least certain of said processed data should be forwarded – from among plural different product handler means, and forwarding at least certain of said processed data to said identified product handler means; and

product handler means for providing a response to the originating device means in accordance with the information provided thereto by the routing means, the product handler means being distinct from the routing means.

4. (Original) The system of claim 3 in which the routing means includes means for checking information in the database.

5. (Original) The system of claim 3 in which the registration means includes means for generating an encapsulating file and means for distributing said file to predetermined parties.

6-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) In a method of linking from physical objects to corresponding electronic resources, the method including sensing object payload data from a machine readable feature associated with a first physical object, querying a database with at least some of said payload data to obtain address information associated with said first physical object, and initiating an electronic link based on said obtained address information, an improvement comprising foreseeing information about object payloads that may be forthcoming but that do not share with the first object the payload data with which the database was queried, and anticipatorily sending address information associated with such foreseen object payloads after sending address information associated with the first physical object, wherein address information associated with other physical objects – but not associated with the first physical object – are sent in expectation that such other physical objects may thereafter be sensed.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 in which the physical object is a member of a logical set, and the method includes anticipatorily sending address information associated with other objects that are also members of said logical set.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 in which the logical set comprises a set of advertisements found in a particular magazine.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 that includes foreseeing an order in which other object payloads may be forthcoming, and anticipatorily sending address information for such object payloads in said order.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 in which said order is based on an order of printed pages in a bound volume.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 that includes determining an order in which to send address information associated with said foreseen object payloads based on a contractual arrangement.

23. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

sensing an object identifier from a first object;

sending said first object identifier from a first device to a second device;

in response, at said second device, identifying address information corresponding to said first object identifier and sending same to the first device;

initiating a link from the first device in accordance with said address information;

at said second device, after initiating said link, identifying additional objects related to said first object; identifying additional address information corresponding to said additional objects; and sending said additional address information to the first device;

storing said additional address information in a memory at the first device;

wherein, if an object included among said identified additional objects is sensed by the first device, the corresponding address information can be retrieved from said memory in the first device without the intervening delays of communicating with the second device.

24. (Previously Presented) In a method of linking from physical objects to corresponding electronic resources, the method including decoding object payload data from a machine readable feature associated with a physical object, querying a database with at least some of said payload data to obtain address information associated with said physical object, and initiating an electronic link based on said obtained address information, an improvement comprising foreseeing information about object payloads that may be forthcoming, and anticipatorily sending address information associated with such foreseen object payloads after initiating said electronic link.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 in which the physical object is a member of a logical set, and the method includes anticipatorily sending address information associated with other objects that are also members of said logical set.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 in which the logical set comprises a set of advertisements found in a particular magazine.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 that includes foreseeing an order in which other object payloads may be forthcoming, and anticipatorily sending address information for such object payloads in said order.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 in which said order is based on an order of printed pages in a bound volume.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 that includes determining an order in which to send address information associated with said foreseen object payloads based on a contractual arrangement.

30. (Previously Presented) In a method of linking from physical objects to corresponding electronic resources, the method including decoding object payload data from a machine readable feature associated with a physical object, querying a database with at least some of said payload data to obtain address information associated with said physical object, and initiating an electronic link based on said obtained address information, an improvement comprising foreseeing information about object payloads that may be forthcoming, and the order in which said other object payloads may be forthcoming, and anticipatorily sending address information associated with such foreseen object payloads, in such order.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 in which said order is based on an order of printed pages in a bound volume.

32. (Currently Amended) A system for linking from physical or digital objects to corresponding digital resources, comprising:

a database;

a **particular** registration ~~part~~ **device** for receiving data relating to an object, including its identity and an associated owner, and for associating same in the database with data relating to a corresponding digital resource;

a **particular** routing ~~part~~ **device** for (a) receiving data from a user device corresponding to an input object sensed thereby, (b) logging information concerning the received data, (c) identifying a **particular** product handler ~~part~~ **device** to which at least certain of said processed data should be forwarded – from among plural different product handler ~~parts~~ **devices**, and (d) forwarding at least certain of said received data to a **particular** product handler ~~part~~ **device**; and

a **particular** product handler ~~part~~ **device** for providing a response to the user device, said response being determined by reference to said database in accordance with the data received from the user device.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 further including a user device for sensing data corresponding to an input object, processing same, and forwarding processed data to the routing part, said user device including a camera.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33 wherein the user device comprises a wireless telephone.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 that further includes a steganographic watermark detector for decoding information steganographically encoded in electronic or physical objects.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 further including a user device for sensing data from an input object, processing same, and forwarding same to the routing part, said user device including the steganographic watermark decoder.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 36 wherein the user device comprises a wireless telephone.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37 wherein the wireless telephone includes a 2D image sensor.

39. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 38 in which the routing **part device** is adapted to check information in the database.

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 32 in which the registration **part device** is adapted to generate an encapsulating file and distribute said file to predetermined parties.

41. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the sensing comprises sensing an object identifier from a first physical, tangible object, wherein the sensed identifier serves to identify said physical, tangible object.